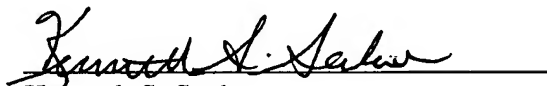


### Remarks

In response to the Office Action of November 23, 2004 in the above-identified patent application, Applicant elects Group I drawn to claims 1-8 and 17-23. Applicant wishes to point out that dipping as referenced by the Examiner on page 2, paragraph 2 of the Office Action is one of many methods of coating the core. However, to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant elects claims 1-8 and 17-23 without traverse.

Examination of the application is thus requested. If the Examiner has any questions in regard to this matter, he is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kenneth S. Sachar", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth S. Sachar  
Registration No. 54,418  
Attorney for Applicants

Bromberg & Sunstein LLP  
125 Summer Street  
Boston, MA 02110-1618  
(617) 443-9292

December 22, 2004  
00917/00192 353399.1